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3 pages

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Date: February 15, 2002 By:

lois F Miller

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Oppmann, et al.

Serial No.: 09/658,699

Filed:

September 8, 2000

For: MAMMALIAN GENES; RELATED

REAGENTS AND METHODS

Examiner: Amy DeCloux

Art Unit:

1644

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Palo Alto, California 94304

February <u>14</u>, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Honorable Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed January 29, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 51, as indicated.

51. (Amended Once) A binding compound comprising an antigen binding site from an antibody, which specifically binds to a mammalian IL-B30/p40 complex, said complex comprising an IL-B30 subunit (SEQ ID NO:2 or 4) and a p40 subunit of human or murine origin, wherein said antibody immunologically reacts with an epitope present d by the IL-B30/p40 complex, but is not substantially

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